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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7207

BILL NUMBER: HB 1190

NOTE PREPARED: May 8, 2011

BILL AMENDED: Mar 28, 2011

SUBJECT: Ballots and Voting Systems.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Richardson

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Landske

BILL STATUS: Enrolled

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: *School Board Offices*- The bill provides that school board offices must be placed on the ballot under a nonpartisan title.

Ballot Placement of Local Public Questions- The bill requires that: (1) local public questions be placed on a primary election ballot after the voting instructions and before the offices with candidates for nomination; and (2) public questions be placed on a general election ballot after the voting instructions and before the offices on the ballot. For ballot card voting systems and electronic voting systems, the bill removes a requirement that school board offices, public questions concerning the retention of a justice or judge, local nonpartisan judicial offices, and local public questions be placed at the beginning of separate columns or pages on a general election ballot.

Sample Ballots- The bill removes the requirement that a sample ballot must be an exact copy of the official ballot and requires a sample ballot to be altered so that marks on the sample ballot cannot be counted as votes.

Unique Candidate Identifier- The bill provides that a county election board may require its voting system to display a ballot number or other designation that uniquely identifies the candidates. (Under current law, voting systems are required to display such a unique number or designation.)

Repealer- The bill repeals an obsolete statute relating to voting machines.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *School Board Offices*- This provision could reduce ballot printing expenditures in counties with optical scan voting systems, if school board candidates did not have to be in separate columns on the ballot.

(Revised) *Ballot Placement of Local Public Questions*- A change in the placement of public questions on the ballot would likely have a minimal fiscal impact on optical scan ballot card printing costs. Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) systems would require minimal re-programing to move the placement of public questions.

Sample Ballots- The provision would allow county election boards to alter sample ballots, which would likely involve the border's timing and code markings. With the changes, an optical scanner would not be able to vote the sample ballot in error. This provision should not have any fiscal impact on local expenditures.

Background- Two of the most common touchscreen DRE systems, the MicroVote Infinity and the ES&S iVotronic, allow offices, judicial retention, and public questions to be programmed in any order desired. With respect to the Infinity, simple 'click and drags' within the existing software interface can achieve any ballot order. Although they are being phased out of general use, the MicroVote MV464 can also be programmed to have public questions placed at the front of the ballot. Ballot cards used on an optical scan voting system cost about \$0.32 apiece.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Circuit court clerk's offices of Boone County, Vanderburgh County, Franklin County, Shelby County, and Hamilton County; Steve Shamo, MicroVote, 317-414-2780.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.